

Message Text

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21

ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 RSC-01 SSO-00 ISO-00 NSCE-00 /012 R

66622

DRAFTED BY S/S-O:C.REDMAN

APPROVED BY S/S-O:L.MATTESON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USLO PEKING IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 262909

TOSEC 597

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO BEIRUT KHARTOUM TUNIS
FROM CAIRO NOV 28

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 9655

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR XF

SUBJ: FALSE PRESS REPORT OF NO PALESTINIAN PRISONERS IN CAIRO

DEPARTMENT PASS PEKING FOR THE SECRETARY

1. IN REPORTING PRESS CONFERENCE HELD NOV 27 BY BSO LEADER ABU IYAD
IN CAIRO, LOCAL ENGLISH AND FRENCH LANGUAGE NEWSPAPERS QUOTE
HIM AS SAYING "THERE IS NOT A SINGLE PALESTINIAN DETAINED IN EGYPT."
ARABIC LANGUAGE PAPERS ARE MORE PRECISE; EG GUMHURIYYA HEADLINE IS:
"NOT ONE PALESTINIAN PRISONER IN CAIRO EXCEPT THOSE HELD AT ORDER
OF PALESTINIAN COMMAND."

2. AMBASSADOR CALLED SIRRI FOR CLARIFICATION. SIRRI REITERATED
KHARTOUMEIGHT ARE IN EGYPT AND IN EGYPTIAN CUSTODY. HE ASSUMES
ABU IYAD, IN FACE SAVING EFFORT, MAY HAVE SPOKEN IN CONTEXT OF PLO
HAVING "ASKED" GOE TO HOLD ROME FIVE AND KHARTOUM EIGHT ON PLO'S
BEHALF. SIRRI RECALLED, HOWEVER, THAT IT WAS EGYPTIAN MINIT, NOT
PLO, TO WHOM APPEAL HAD TO BE MADE FOR THE RELEASE OF THE ROME FIVE
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AND STRESSED AGAIN THAT EGYPT HAD THEM IN CUSTODY. ABS YAD, HE

SUGGESTED, MAY HAVE BEEN POSING FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE INTERNATIONAL
PRESS.

EILTS

UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Drafter: O:C.REDMAN
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TAGS: PFOR, XF, PLO, (ABU IYAD)
To: PEKING
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